

## Statement by Company President Ryan Albright on March 1 Fire

**Waterville, NB (March 5, 2024)** – It was with heavy hearts and immense sadness that we witnessed the fire that destroyed our factory in Waterville on Friday, March 1. At the same time, we cannot begin to express how thankful we were that no one was injured, and how grateful we were to the courageous first responders and firefighters who worked tirelessly to battle the blaze, while ensuring the safety of our employees.

In moments of crisis, communities come together. Never was this more evident than in the days following our devastating loss, which has impacted 185 employees and their families. We have been deeply moved by the outpouring of support, compassion, and solidarity shown by residents of our community, our Province, and Canadians from coast to coast. Your acts of kindness, offers of assistance, and heartfelt messages have served as a beacon of hope during this challenging time.

Family is at the heart of our business and this extends to our valued employees. In the aftermath of the fire, our Covered Bridge family has remained resilient, united, and determined to rise again. We trust we can count on you — our consumers, customers, suppliers, friends and families — for your patience and continued support as we find our way forward.

Since our first batch of chips rolled off the line over 15 years ago, we have navigated all challenges and bumps along the road with our strong entrepreneurial spirit. That spirit still shines bright as we plan our path forward.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for standing by our side during this trying time. Together, we will weather this Storm!

With our sincere appreciation, Ryan Albright, President On behalf of the Covered Bridge Potato Chip Company owners, employees and their families

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## About Covered Bridge Potato Chips:

Nestled in the heart of potato country near Hartland, family-owned Covered Bridge Potato Chips offers some of New Brunswick's tastiest exports to the world. The dark Russet potatoes the company uses to make its delicious kettle-cooked potato chips are homegrown on the Albright family farm, which traces its roots back to the early 1920s. Brothers Ryan and Matt Albright are fourth generation farmers who purchased the family farm in 2006, the same year their plan to produce the company's gluten-free, trans fat-free potato chips was born. The company is now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year of production and employs over 185 people. For more information on Covered Bridge, please visit <u>www.coveredbridgechips.com.</u> FB: Covered Bridge Potato Chips. IG: CB\_Chips. Twitter: CBchips

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